

# Foreign Agricultural Service *GAIN* Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

Voluntary Report - public distribution

GAIN Report #MX2139

Date: 10/3/2002

### **Mexico**

2002

## **Agricultural Situation**

## Mexico's Monthly Crop Update, September 2002

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### **Report Highlights:**

The 2002 Spring/Summer harvest is practically at the end. For the 2002/03 Fall/Winter harvest, the pace of planting has continued in a normal pattern for major grains and oilseeds. Despite the damages from Hurricane Isidore on corn areas in the states of Yucatan and Campeche, the impact on production is expected to be nil, as these states are not major contributors to Mexico's annual corn production.

The tables below represent the most recent official data published by Mexico's Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fisheries, and Foodstuffs (SAGARPA). USDA does not necessarily concur with SAGARPA's data; however, it is used in these tables so that readers may have a consistent data source as a basis for their analysis. FAS/Mexico's numbers may ultimately vary significantly from those presented below because of input from non-SAGARPA sources.

FORECASTI	FOR SPRING/SU	MMFR 200	2 HARVEST
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Crop	Planted Area Spring/Summer 2002 (1000 has)	Already Harvested Spring/Summer 2002 (1000 has)	Projected Production Spring/Summer 2002 (1000 MT)	Production Harvested Spring/Summer 2002 (1000 MT)
CORN	974	909	4,073	4,032
SORGHUM	933	818	1,701	1,531
WHEAT	557	540	3,095	3,078
COTTON*	-	-	-	-
SOYBEANS	1	1	1	1
TOTAL	2,465	2,268	8,870	8,642

<sup>\*</sup> Area on all tables is based on cotton lint (not cottonseed); SAGARPA reports area for the primary crop (i.e., cotton). The production estimate, however, is for cotton seed (there is a separate estimate for fiber which is reported in our annual and voluntary cotton reports).

SOURCE: SAGARPA as of August 31, 2002

### **FAS/MEXICO'S COMMENTS:**

Official sources indicated that the Spring/Summer 2002 harvest is practically finished. Preliminary figures will be released in September. Sorghum production continues to be down 480,000 MT or 22 percent from the same month last year, reflecting dry weather conditions and low yields, mainly in Tamaulipas. For the rest of the crops, there is no significant change, at this time, from previous reports. FAS/Mexico is maintaining its most recent PS&D estimates (see MX 2037, MX 2055 and MX 2077).

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Crop	Planting Intention Fall/ Winter 2002/03 (1000 has)	Already Planted Fall/ Winter 2002/03 (1000 has)	Monthly Change Area Fall/ Winter 2002/03 (1000 has)	Projected Production Fall/ Winter 2002/03 (1000 MT)	Production Harvested Fall/Winter 2002/03 (100MT)
CORN	7,263	7,175	824	15,586	346
SORGHUM	1,142	954	335	3,491	194
WHEAT	145	97	20	198	-
COTTON*	73	40	-	74	3
SOYBEANS	109	56	42	91	-
TOTAL	8,732	8,322	1,221	19,440	543

<sup>\*</sup> Area on all tables is based on cotton lint (not cottonseed); SAGARPA reports area for the primary crop, i.e., cotton. The production estimate, however, is for cotton seed (there is a separate estimate for fiber which is reported in our annual and voluntary cotton reports).

SOURCE: SAGARPA as of August 31, 2002

### **FAS/MEXICO'S COMMENTS:**

According to official sources approximately 115,000 hectares of corn were damaged by Hurricane Isidore in the states of Yucatan and Campeche. It should be noted, however, that both states, along with Quintana Roo, are not major contributors to Mexico's annual corn production. Reportedly, the damaged area could represent approximately 224,000 MT of corn, which is less than 1.5 percent of Mexico's total production for the 2002/03 fall/winter harvest. Mexico's corn production for fall/winter 2002/03 is estimated at 15.586 million MT, up 288,000 or 2 percent from the same date last year. The sorghum production estimate is approximately 170,000 MT higher than the same date of last year, due to changes in official data. Cotton planted area is lower than the average area planted last year during the same month, reflecting poor growing conditions mainly in the state of Chihuahua. FAS/Mexico is maintaining the PS&D numbers previously reported (see MX2037, MX 2055 and MX2077).